

MINUTES
FOUNTAIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 8, 2020
8:30 A.M.

The following Fountain County Commissioners were present at the meeting:
Craig Stalter, Don Hesler and Tim Shumaker.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Amanda Strawser and Leah Keele came to the meeting to see how the meeting was run and to also ask a couple questions regarding the Health Department and how the decisions are made as to who is on the board and the Health Officer. They will be coming back to another meeting with more questions.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Don Hesler and seconded by Craig Stalter to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2020 meeting as presented. Vote: 2-0

Claims #1 – 198	\$ 523,827.71
Monthly Claims	\$1,829,512.39
Payroll Claims 8/28/2020	\$ 235,635.00
Payroll Claims 9/11/2020	\$ 230,513.96

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Don Hesler to approve the Claims. Vote: 3-0

Attica Econ. Dev. - Rod Banta

Petition the Commissioners to have Delinquent Taxes removed as these two parcels are Eligible for SRI Tax Sale on Oct 19, 2020.

23-04-06-204-171.000-008 23-04-06-204-164.000-008

The County Attorney is going to be looking further into this. The proper action was not taken before purchasing the property. There's a process that needs to be done to properly remove the back taxes from the property. The Attica Redevelopment is trying to purchase the buildings downtown and tear down the ones that are no longer safe or able to be saved.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Highway – Rusty Peevler

AT&T called and they have agreed to move the Fiber Optic Cables lines from the middle of the road. This will allow the County Highway department to do the job they needed to do. Rusty was satisfied that with the cable lines exposed that they will be able to do what they need to do.

They will be mowing River Rd soon. Electric warning signs will be set-up to alert drivers.

Auditor – Brenda Hardy

The Commissioners were asked if a motion could be made for the **county to not defer the federal withholdings**. As this is a deferral, not a forgiveness. If an employee left, the county would still have to pay next year. All of our employees were paid this year, no one suffered a hardship regarding their pay. If the payroll tax deferment is Social Security and Medicare only, that we (the county) continue to pay our match, especially if there is going to be a "make up".

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Don Hesler to opt out and not defer withholdings. Vote: 3-0

Ambulance – Garth Kagels

Last month was really busy. They are also making multiple trips to the Badlands. Just this past holiday weekend they were called there 3-4 times a day.

The carpet has now been replaced but there is quite a bit of carpet that was not affected by the water leak. They would like to sell or donate the leftover carpet. If it is valued at less than \$1,000, the commissioners can decide what they would like to do with it. Garth estimates there to be 50-75 squares. He is going to call the carpet company and see what that would be valued at and go from there.

Sheriff – Terry Holt & Andrew Krout

He came asking for permission to apply for a **USDA Grant** that pays for 35% of their vehicles.

A motion was made by Don Hesler and seconded by Tim Shumaker to approve the grant application. Vote: 3-0

The generator at the new jail was not working correctly. It was found that the gas line was smaller than it should have been and it has since been replaced.

Currently, they are housing 43 inmates. Some of them they are holding for the DOC and they should be receiving a check soon.

Transfer – Public Safety - Jail

\$ 10,000 From 1170-0380-10405 Jailers
To 1170-0380-14000 Overtime

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Don Hesler to approve the \$10,000 transfer. Vote: 3-0

Quote – Keller PC**10,079.99 – Power-edge R640 Server**

This is to replace a current server in the Auditor's Office that is shared by Assessor, Auditor, & Treasurer. Having hard drive issues and it's over 5 years old and out of warranty. We need it to be in warranty period so parts are readily available to reduce down time.

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Don Hesler to approve the quote. Vote: 3-0

Amend - IT Contract Agreement - \$4,150 monthly

Contract Agreement or hourly rate for Jail/Sheriff Dept.

Do the Commissioners want to add the Jail/Sheriff Dept. to the current contract? This was tabled.

Quotes for EMS sign**Quote – Dawson Machining LLC**

\$1,070 – installation included

Quote – Sign Solutions

\$7,724 – sign only

\$8,794 – installation included

Large sign line the new jail – same company.

Both of these of quotes have been tabled.

Landfill - Greg Robison

An estimate in the amount of \$2,385.00 was given to the commissioners for more work to be done to the landfill to continue the progress that has been made. The estimate was to fertilize the south cell and surface roll it with vibratory roller.

A motion was made by Tim Shumaker and seconded by Don Hesler to approve the estimate provided by Bell's excavating. Vote: 3-0

Plan Commission**Text Amendments to Fountain County Zoning Ordinance**

The proposed amended Zoning Ordinance, if adopted, will apply to all unincorporated areas in Fountain County.

The proposed text amendments would add Article 9, which permits and regulates Solar Farms and Facilities in Agriculture and Industrial Zoning Districts.

The proposed ordinance contains the following penalty provisions:

VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES: Any structure or use that violates this Ordinance shall be deemed to be a common nuisance and the owner of the structure or land shall be liable for maintaining a common nuisance. Any person or legal entity that is found by a Court of competent jurisdiction to have violated any provision of this Ordinance may be fined not more than Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) per offenses, plus costs, and attorney fees where the action is not brought pursuant to I.C. 36-7-4-1013, and have judgment entered accordingly.

A motion was made by Don Hesler and seconded by Tim Shumaker to approve the Amendment.

Vote: 3-0

RQAW – PROPOSAL FOR DESIGN ONLY – Quote: \$22,000**Design to convert Community Room into Commissioner/Council Meeting Room**

A motion was made by Craig Stalter and seconded by Tim Shumaker to approve the Proposal.

Vote: 2-1

This would be paid for out of the Cares Act Grant because it would enable the commissioners to have social distancing at their meetings and 2 other offices to be built for the same reason. Barnes and Thornburgh have already stated that it was a legitimate reimbursable expense.

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 21, 2020 6:30 P.M.**



ATTEST: Brenda Hardy
Fountain County Auditor



Craig Stalter, President



Don Hesler



Tim Shumaker